

Appl. No. 10/735,041

Amdt. Dated May 10, 2006

Reply to Office Action of February 14, 2006

REMARKS

This is a full and timely response to the non-final Office action mailed February 14, 2006. Reexamination and reconsideration in view of the foregoing amendments and following remarks is respectfully solicited.

Claims 1, 4, 6-7, and 9-13, 20, and 21 remain pending in this application, with Claims 1 and 7 being the independent claims. Claims 1, 6, 7, 9, and 10 have been amended, Claims 2, 3, 5, 8, and 14-19 have been canceled herein, and Claims 20 and 21 are newly presented herein. No new matter is believed to have been added.

Objection to the Title

The title was objected to as allegedly not being descriptive of the claimed invention. In response, Applicant has amended the title to be even more descriptive of the claimed invention. Hence, reconsideration and withdrawal of this objection is requested.

Claim Objection

Claim 2 was objected to because the first and second directions are allegedly not clearly defined. In response, and while not conceding the propriety of the objection, Applicant has canceled both Claims 2 and 3, and present herein new Claims 20 and 21, which parallel dependent Claims 11 and 12.

In view of the foregoing, reconsideration and withdrawal of the claim objection is requested.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1-4, 7, and 11-19 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as allegedly being unpatentable over EP 584426 and GB 2093295. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Independent Claims 1 and 7 have been amended to recite the features of dependent Claims 5 and 8, respectively, which were indicated as being directed to allowable subject matter. Moreover, Claims 14-19 have been canceled herein, mooting the rejection of these claims.

In view of the foregoing, reconsideration and withdrawal of the § 103 rejection is

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respectfully solicited.

Conclusion

Based on the above, independent Claims 1 and 7 are patentable over the citations of record. The dependent claims are also submitted to be patentable for the reasons given above with respect to the independent claims and because each recite features which are patentable in its own right. Individual consideration of the dependent claims is respectfully solicited.

The other art of record is also not understood to disclose or suggest the inventive concept of the present invention as defined by the claims.

Hence, Applicant submits that the present application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and withdrawal of the objections and rejections set forth in the above-noted Office action, and an early Notice of Allowance are requested.

If the Examiner has any comments or suggestions that could place this application in even better form, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned attorney at the below-listed number.

If for some reason Applicant has not paid a sufficient fee for this response, please consider this as authorization to charge Ingrassia, Fisher & Lorenz, Deposit Account No. 50-2091 for any fee which may be due.

Respectfully submitted,

INGRASSIA FISHER & LORENZ

Dated: May 10, 2006

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